### VITTORIO CARPI.

#### A Celebrated Italian Baritone Who Is Coming to America.

No lover of music can fail to be interested in the announcement that Vittorio Carpi, the famous Italian baritone, is coming to America, and that he will make Chicago his home. Few singers of the day have achieved a more solid fame than this Milanese artist. He made his debut in 1872 as Faust In 1873 and 1874 he sus-



tained the leading baritone part at the Viceregal theatre, Cairo, with Holtz, Mongini and Medini. For several years he sang in all the principal Italian cities, including his native city of Bologna. His success in 1877, when he sang with Mile.

Donadio in "The VITTORIO CARPL Barber of Seville," was so pronounced that he was invited to take part in the same opera with Patti at Venice, Bologna and Florence, winding up with the same great artist in "Traviata" at the Apollo of Rome and the San Carlo of Naples. At the San Fernando, in Seville, in 1880, he held his own with Gayarre, the great Spanish tenor who recently died. He spent one season at the Royal theatre, Madrid. His first visit to London was in 1885, His American engagement is with the Chicago conservatory. In addition to being a splendid singer, Carpi is said to be

### CHURCH AND THEATRE IN ONE.

ian voice school.

## The Combination Structure Over Which

one of the best living teachers of the Ital-

Dr. Titsworth Presides. One of the handsomest structures in Milwankee is the Church of the New Idea. It looks more like a club house than a church, and is designed for many other purposes than that of Sunday preaching. The general plan of the building was devised by the pastor, Rev. Judson Titsworth. The cardinal principle of construction was that the edifice must be adapted to use rather than to conventional ideas of ecclesiastical architecture. The main floor contains a reading room, free for all; a lecture room. the church parlors and committee rooms. On the second floor are the young men's

club rooms, the pastor's reception rooms and study and a hall for Sunday school



CHURCH OF THE NEW IDEA.

The third floor is occupied by a theatre, where amateur performances are given during the winter months, and in the basement are a kitchen and a dining "The church is an evolution," said Dr. Titsworth recently. "It has not yet reached the stage that I desire, but progress is gradually being made in the right direction. For instance, I want to have one room fitted up with billiand tables and another used as a card room. I believe these amusements not merely harmless, but beneficial. However, I do not care to force things too fast. Evolution is a slow process, and we must wait patiently for its re-

## Insect Devouring Plants.

As is well known, most plants derive nu triment from the ground by means of their roots, but it has been established that a few, curiously adapted for the purpose, feed on insects. Among the latter may be mentioned the pitcher plants of the Sierra Nevadas, North Carolina and Borneo. Bladder worts also catch insects, and so does the sundew, whose long, narrow leaves are covered with a sweet, sticky substance. When one of the leaves catches a fly, for example, it begins to curve over. The movement is very slow, and, what is quite remarkable, if the fly alights on the side of the leaf or anywhere away from the center, the tentacle it touches bends over, carrying its prey with it to the center of the leaf, and then all the tentacles move toward the middle and clasp it. The leaf then pours over it a liquid acid, which dissolves what is good for food, thus acting as does the gastric juice in our stomachs. One full meal will last the plant nearly a week. It must have the right kind of food, however.

Dr. Darwin fed a sundew on cheese, which made it turn yellow and sickly, and it finally died with dyspepsia. When a few drops of milk were poured on a leaf it curved up around the edges, making the form more cuplike, while the tentacles bent over to absorb it. Another thing has been noted. If a bit of meat is divided, half of it placed on the leaf and the other on some moss beside it, the piece on the leaf will remain fresh until digested, while that on the moss becomes spoiled. The operations of Venus' fly trap are familiar to most cultivators of plants.

# A Chinese Electrician.

The Chinese of San Francisco regard Hong Tie as a wizard. However there is nothing of the supernatural about his exploits. He is simply a wonderfully clever Mongolian who has made an independent study of electricity and almost unaided mastered its secrets. He came into public



ously discontinued the service. The inquiry un-earthed Hong Tie as the head of an independent sys tem. He was in charge of an elec-

tric plant, had strung wires and put in telephones of his own make all through the Celestial quarter, and was also found to be the owner of a telegraph line. All the instruments and appliances are of his own make. Hong Tie has been in America thirty-six years, the last fifteen of which he has devoted to the study of electrical devices. He speaks En-

Capt. McMickan, the commodore of the Cunard fleet, who died recently at Liverpool, besides voyaging on the Mediterranear for a number of years, had crossed the Atlantic 425 times.



No. 256,-Easy Acrostic. The second row of letters, reading downward, spells the name of a flower; the last row spells the name of certain fragrant

Cross words (of equal length): 1. A scent, A glory. 3. Morsels. 4. An island. 5.
 Watch closely.

No. 257.—The Drunkard's Palindrome.

N	н	T	1	*
0	G	0.	E	1
E.	1	N	v	T
$\mathbf{v}$	N	L	1	н
1	L	N	1	Q

As the drunkard sat in his easy chair The spirit of night appeared in the air, Distilling her dews to moisten the brows That feverish throbbed from a late carouse. "Oh! erring youth, what a choice is thine! To barter thy reason and health for wine. Rise, manlike, and flee thy besetting sin,
And renounce the maddening evils of gin.

The drunkard replied, and the words he spoke
Showed his neck was bent to the Bacchanal yoke And what was his answer! I've framed it above Commence in the center—rectangular move— And you have the answer he made to the guome Which reads either way like a palin

No. 258.-A Hidden Menagerie. Ten animals usually seen in shows are

concealed in the following: The book was so interesting I was loth o leave it. Still I only had to pretend I did not hear and I might go on with it in peace. No common key would fit the lock. and mother would not think of looking for me here. It was a small room, One must be a very small person to occupy and not cafe whether oxygen were rather lacking. "I hope she will be a reasonable woman and not call me again," I thought. But she continued to call, and it seemed so much iike telling a fib I sonorously called out: "Coming, ma," and opened the door. She was at my side ere I was out of the room. "I was at a pirate story and did not hear you at first," I said. But she did not look very gentle. "Oh, pardon me this time," I cried, "and I promise to never do so again," with which understanding she let

No. 259.—Hinstrated Rebus.



CEALONTNISNOPT. Put them together and spell for me A city of Europe now quite free.

No. 261.—Characteristic Initials. The initials of each of the two words in capital letters are those of famous writers:

Genies Excellent, great was her fame, And known to all of English name.

2. AMUSING WRITER, long gone to rest

Of American humorists one of the best. 8. Caregul Detailer, his fame cannot die.

No. 262.—Word Square and Half Square. 1. Play. 2. Pertaining to the poles. 3. Emblem of peace. 4. Talks wildly. 5. A lock of hair.

A country; 2. Anguish; 3. A gas; 4.
 A préposition; 5. A letter.

No. 263.—Syncopated Centrals. In the center of "coverings for the feet" find a garden implement. In the center of "a printed sheet" find an

In the center of "a growth of hair" find a part of the body.

In the center of "a cross look" find a donestic animal.

In the center of "a prolonged look" find black substance. In the center of "a kind of string" find

In the center of a fruit find "a knock." In the center of "to take without leave" find a refreshing beverage.

In the center of the backbone find a small but useful article. In the center of "a sheltered nook" find

#### Queer Things in Print. A newspaper contained this: "We have

wo school rooms sufficiently large to accommodate 300 pupils one above another." Mr. Blank who was taken suddenly ill hastened home while every means for his recovery were resorted to. In spite of all their efforts, he died in the triumphs of the Christian religion.

A man was killed by a railroad car running into Boston, supposed to be deaf. We have decided to erect a school house large enough to accommodate 500 scholars

five stories high. A steamboat captain, advertising an excursion, says: "Tickets, twenty-five cents; children half price to be had at the office. On a certain railway the following luminous direction was printed: "Hereafter, when trains in an opposite direction are approaching each other on separate lines. conductors and engineers will be requested to bring their respective trains to a dead halt before the point of meeting, and be careful not to proceed till each train has passed the other."

A Very Re-spectre-ble Enigma. What's that? what's that? Oh, I shall faint Call the priest to lay it: Transpose it, and to king and saint

And great and good you pay it. Spectre; respect.

Key to the Puzzler. No. 248.-A Letter Puzzle: Henry M.

Stanley. Anagram: Sorghum. No. 250. - Picture Puzzle: The answer to this is found in the picture itself. Sharp eyes will distinguish three mice in the

No. 251.— Fen State Capitals: Boston, Jackson, Little Rock, Frankfort, Topeka, Columbus, Springfield, Madison, Augusta.

shading of the old cat.

and blue.

Baleigh. No. 252.—A Shopping Problem: \$45. No. 253.—Numerical Enigma: Red, white

No. 254. - Enigma: Leaves. No. 255.—Curtailments: 1. Her-d. 2. Hem: 3 Hou-x 4. Whir-l. 5. Bee-f. AUTHOR OF FOUR HUNDRED PLAYS, The Enormous Literary Activity of the Late Dion Boucleault.

The Nineteenthmentury has produced no more prolific or successful playwright than Dion Boucicault, who died the other day in New York city. He began his career as a dramatic author when 19 years of age with "London Assurance," which was first produced at Covent Garden theatre, Lon don, in 1841, and still remains a favorite with the public. His last effort was "A Tale of a Coat," recently on the boards at Daly's New York City theatre. Between "London Assurance" and "A Tale of a Coat"—that is, during the fifty years of his activity-Boucicault wrote or adapted at least 400 plays. Many were ephemeral, but others made phenomenal bits



DION BOUCICAULT.

Among the latter may be mentioned 'The Willow Copse," in which Couldock scored his first stage triumph; "Rip Van Winkle," with which the name of Jefferson is firmly linked; "The Colleen Bawn,"
"The Shaughraun," "Louis XI," "Foul
Play," "Led Astray" and "After Dark,"
Thirty-five of the dead author's plays had first runs of at least 150 nights each, and it is said that during the last quarter of a century there has not been a single night on which some one of his immense number of productions has not been presented either in the United States, Great Britian or Australia. It is also estimated that in that time the public has paid \$40,-900,000 to see his plays acted. "The Colleen Bawn" netted him \$1,000,000, and "The Shaughraun" realized nearly half that amount. For the latter play and his services as an actor during five years Lester Wallack offered Mr. Boucicault \$250,000. The proposition was declined.

Dion Boncicault was born in Dublin of

an Irish mother and a French father. He was first married in 1844 to a widow of means and beauty, who died a few years later. Then it was announced that Agnes Robertson, a handsome actress, had become his wife. They lived together for many years, and five children were the fruit of the union. Their differences ended in a divorce suit, and not long ago Mr. Boucicault espoused Louise Thorndyke, a young actress, who survives him, and who was with him at the time of his death.

Despite the enormous sums he earned Boucicault died poor. He was lavish as a prince in his expenditures and unlucky in his speculations; but no financial disas-ter affected his buoyant temperament. He felt that he had a gold mine in his head, and that he could replace lost fortunes at will. He left nearly finished a drama based on Bret Harte's novel "The Luck of Roaring Camp," in which it had been planned that Mrs. Thorndyke Boucicault should star.

But nothing the man wrote excelled that production of the boy – the wonderful "London Assurance." There is electricity in every line and an extra heart throb in every climax. What modern pen has produced a more stirring passage than this Lady Gay Spanker describes the conduct of her mount in a steeplechase

There were sixty horses in the field, all mettle to the bone: the start was a picture—away we went in a cloud—pell mell—helter skelter—the fools first, as usual, using themselves up—we soon passed them—first your Kitty then my Blueskin and Craven's colt last. Then came the tug—Kitty skimmed the walls—Blueskin flew over the fences—the colt neck and neck and half a mile to great her ther the colt neck and neck and half a mile to run—at last the coit balked a leap and went wild. Kitty and I had it all to ourselves she was three lengths ahead as we breasted the last wall, six feet, if an inch, and a ditch on the other side. Now, for the first time, I gave Blue-skin his head—ha! ha! Away he flew like a thunderbolt—over went the filly—I over the same spot, leaving Kitty in the ditch-walked the steeple, eight miles in thirty minutes, and scarcely turned a hair

These lines, voiced by an actress like Mrs. Nisbett or Charlotte Cushman, never failed to "bring down the house," but the closing sentences of "London Assurance," which fall from the lips of Sir Harcourt Courtly, are equally worthy of reproduction. The character says:

Barefaced assurance is the vulgar substitute for gentlemanly ease; and there are many, who, by aping the vices of the great, imagine that they elevate themselves to the rank of those, whose faults alone they copy No! sir The title of gentleman is the only one out of any monarch's gift, yet within the reach of every peasant. It should be engrossed by Truth-stamped with Honor—scaled with good feeling—signed Man— and enrolled in every true young English heart.

# The Danube's Iron Gate.

Engineers are now at work blowing up the rocks in the bed of the Danube at that point in the great river's progress which is known as the "iron gate." Many years ago a navigable channel was cut through, but it is practicable only for powerful steamers. No other craft could live in the mighty whirl of waters. The plan to make the cataract feasible for all sorts of boats was first suggested in 1781, but over a cent-



THE IRON GATE OF THE DANUBE

ury passed before the nations interested agreed as to the details A conference at Vienna some time ago culminated in a harmony of understanding, and the great work is now under way. The "iron gate" is situated on the Servian border. There the tremendous volume of the Dannbe passes through a defile 650 feet wide and ,500 feet long, with a fall of 16 feet and a velocity of 10 to 15 feet a second, its course being troubled by numerous reefs and iedges. The plan approved for clearing the channel is that of an American engi neer named McAlpine.

During the last two years English capitalists have paid out \$100,000,000 for the purchase of manufacturing plants in the United States



Moving Household Goods and Pianos a Specialty.

You cannot afford to waste your money in experimental trips by other lines represented as being equally as good as the "Burlington." They are not.

J. FRANCIS. General Passenger and Ticket Agent,

On:aha



A. C. ZIEMER. City Passenger and Ticket Agent, Lincoln,